

GREAT YEAR FOR SHIPS

Many Vessels Added to the American Merchant Marine.

Production the Largest in a Quarter-Century. With a Single Exception—New Craft Number 1,420—Steel Now the Principal Material Used in Construction—The Manila Fleet.

In the history of the American Merchant Marine, the fiscal year just closed has been an exceptional period in many respects. With the exception of 1894, the total output of American shipyards was the largest of any year during the last quarter century. In 1891, 1,384 vessels of 293,302 gross tons were built and documented in the United States.

During the fiscal year that has just ended the official returns on the construction of merchant vessels state that 1,429 were built, having an aggregate of 320,876 gross tons. Besides these 22 vessels of foreign construction, aggregating 30,181 gross tons, have been added to the American registry. It is also reported from Manila that since last August 141 vessels have been transferred from the hands of the Spanish, German, and British subjects to Americans, indicating the confidence of the business men of Manila in American Government. Had the Senate passed the House bill for the registry of Hawaiian vessels, the total additions to the nation's merchant fleet during the year would have reached 400,000 tons. The largest annual production in 1895, when 2,000 vessels of 553,450 tons were built and documented.

During 1898 Great Britain built 1,549 vessels of 1,390,116 tons. The difference in the kind of vessels built is indicated by the average size, American construction averaging only 225 tons, while the British average 900 tons. Nearly all of this country's new tonnage is built to navigate in the coasting trade reserved to American vessels. The only steamships built directly for the foreign trade were the Havana and Mexico, of the New York and Cuba mail, and the four "cable" mail steamships for Cuba and Jamaica, aggregating 19,730 tons, which were built under the postal subsidy act.

In anticipation of legislation at the coming session, construction has begun or been contracted for on about 100,000 tons of steel steamships for foreign trade and trade with Hawaii and Porto Rico, involving an expenditure of about \$10,000,000.

For the first time in American history on June 30 the total tonnage of this country's steam vessels was 1,000,000 tons, which exceeds the total of all other kinds of documented vessels. During the year 460 steel vessels of 94,456 tons have been built, compared with 429 in the corresponding year of the previous year, while the steam vessels built during 1898 of 167,851 tons, compared with 418 of 110,128 tons for the previous year.

In certain trades American's large sailing vessels endeavor to compete with foreign cargo steamships, and doubtless will continue to do so, at all events until the construction of the new "cable" mail steamships. The most notable vessel is the John S. Johnston, a steel schooner of 5,619 gross tons, built at West Superior, Mich., probably the largest and most powerful sailing vessel ever built. The largest sailing vessel built in Europe in 1898 was the Ernest Siegfried, of Havre, 5,214 tons.

For the first time in the country's history steel has become the principal material in the construction of rigid vessels, the steel tonnage for the year being 123,951 tons. Iron has ceased to be a shipbuilding material. During 1898 in Great Britain, 99 per cent, or practically the whole construction except small fishing vessels, was of steel.

STABBED HIM TO DEATH.

Bad Blood Results in a Fatal Affray at Easton, Md.

Easton, Md., July 2.—Olaf Hyson, white, aged twenty-three years, was stabbed in the neck and breast in South Washington Street at midnight Saturday night and died at 4 o'clock yesterday morning from internal hemorrhage.

Malcolm Anderson, who is alleged to have done the stabbing, fled, and has not been captured. Justice Coburn, acting coroner, computed the wound, which, after viewing the body, with Drs. Trippie and Council, adjourned until this afternoon to get witnesses.

Saturday night Anderson, Hyson, Edward Cox, James Dillon and Edward Straughan went to "The Klondike," a liquor store kept by William E. Turner on the Chapel Street side of the city. Hyson, a native of three miles from Easton, and a very bad character, was there when he was shot. Anderson, who was with him, was also there. Anderson is alleged to have been the stabber. Hyson was taken to the hospital, but died at 4 o'clock yesterday morning.

Anderson and Hyson were both members of Company F, First Maryland Regiment, and it is said there had been bad blood between them ever since the regiment was encamped at Fort Monroe, though this is denied by some members of the company. Malcolm Anderson is the youngest son of Dr. H. A. Hyson, a very old physician of Easton. Hyson was a carpenter and a workman on Martin's Woodwork Factory.

Canadians to March in Rochester.

Rochester, N. Y., July 2.—For the first time in the history of this city, and it is said, of any other city of the United States, Canadian troops will march in the Fourth of July parade here. There will be 2,000 soldiers, and they are expected that the parade will be by far the largest ever held here. The following Canadian companies will march: Forty-eighth Highlanders, Toronto; Lieut. Col. A. L. Cross by commanding; Princess of Wales Own Rifles, Major R. F. Kemp commanding; Fifteenth Battalion, Belleville, Major W. M. Thompson commanding; A Battery, of Kingston, and a squadron of the Third Dragoons of Colborne, Major W. W. Brown commanding.

A Hawaiian Immigration Scheme.

Tacoma, July 2.—The Japanese Consul at Honolulu reports that Hawaiian sugar planters have applied for an importation of 10,000 contract laborers. The Hawaiian Government would not allow more than 5,000 Japanese brought in and then only on condition that an equal number of white men be imported. This explains why the planters have sent to this country for 5,000 white farm hands. Five thousand Japanese colliers are being rushed into Hawaii.

Lightning Fires a Barn.

Oakland, Md., July 2.—Fire started by a bolt of lightning burned the large barn of John J. Brennan, near Accident, Garrett county, with 300 bushels of grain, provender, machinery, and about 200 chickens. The loss is \$25,000, with no insurance.

Will Live on your digestive organs and stimulate your liver and kidneys.

Hostetter's Stomach Bitters.

ICE CREAM MAKERS SWINDLED.

Cash Checks for a Woman Who Orders Big Quantities.

New York, July 2.—Shopkeepers in Harlem have asked the police of the East 150th Street station to help them find a clever, young woman, who, appearing among them, obtained about \$200, and vanished. She used the name of Mrs. Matilda Miller, and said she lived at 25 West 119th Street. She is about fifty years old, and dresses in gowns of rich texture.

Among her victims is Abraham Anderson, who has a confectioner's store at 1488 Fifth Avenue. In his absence Saturday morning she walked into the store and introduced herself to Mrs. Anderson. She said that her daughter was going to be married that evening, and she wanted to arrange for the Andersons to supply the ice cream and confections. Frequently, she said, she had bought cream there, and was delighted with it. In fact she considered it the finest that she had eaten in a long time. Mrs. Anderson felt highly gratified and thanked her patron profusely.

"We will have about two hundred persons at the reception," the woman continued. "It will be a very large wedding and we expect some distinguished men" (here, including Governor Roosevelt and his staff, I'll pay you for the ice-cream, I haven't money enough with me now. Send them C. O. D. and it will be all right."

She looked through her pocketbook, apparently in search of money. Pulling out a piece of paper, she smiled pleasantly, and said:

"Here's a check you can take the \$15 out of it. It would be a great favor to me, as I would like a little change, for I have to do some shopping down town."

Mrs. Anderson said she did not have enough cash in the drawer.

"Well, give me \$25 on account, and you can send the rest over with the cash this evening," said the woman, and Mrs. Anderson gave her the money requested. The check was made out on a blank of the Brooklyn City National Bank, and was made payable to Mrs. Mary E. Anderson for \$25 and was signed by Charles W. Jackson. Subsequent enquiry at the bank elicited the information that no such person as Charles W. Jackson had an account there.

When Anderson reached home he went to the house in West 119th Street, and found that it was empty. "To let him be so alone," said the woman, and Mrs. Anderson gave her the money requested. The check was made out on a blank of the Brooklyn City National Bank, and was made payable to Mrs. Mary E. Anderson for \$25 and was signed by Charles W. Jackson. Subsequent enquiry at the bank elicited the information that no such person as Charles W. Jackson had an account there.

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RUINED IN THE KLONDIKE.

A New Jersey Man's Return With Health and Fortune Gone.

Flemington, N. J., July 2.—Kit Kuhl, who sold out a large furniture and house furnishing business in this place in 1897 to embark in a Klondike expedition to search for gold, has just returned. Kuhl brings back a large experience, for which he was exchanged every dollar that he was worth.

He left this place with more than \$5,000, and his return was at the expense of the railroads over which he traveled, and was made principally in freight cars, occupying about three months from Seattle to New York.

His version of the gold found in the Northwest does not agree with the reports sent out from Seattle and other points.

His first effort to get into the interior of the fourth glacier at the head of Disenchantment Bay, where, with a large party, he attempted to get into the district where they expected to find the headwaters of the Yukon, failed. He was then proved an impossibility, and he, with two companions, Guy Bisby and Thomas O'Neill, of St. Paul, Minn., returned to Seattle. No sooner did they arrive at Seattle than a newspaper of that city wrote them up as having returned with fortunes, the combined amount of which was \$119,000 in gold nuggets.

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MINERS BECOME CANNIBALS.

Details of Sufferings in the Athin District of Alaska.

Portland, Ore., July 2.—The recent story of cannibalism which came from the Athin district of Alaska is confirmed, and horrible details are added by a letter received Saturday by Capt. Hans Venson, from Moquin, in the Kotzebue Sound country.

The writer was Olof Jorgenson, who, with one Swedish sailor, Peter Martin and August Alsen, and twenty others, went to the Kotzebue country in September from Seattle. All were supplied with food and had a year's outfit, but it is scarcely probable that more than one of these men is now alive.

The letter to Venson enclosed one to Jorgenson's mother in Stockholm, which Martin is some way succeeded in mailing at St. Michael, where he is now at the point of death, unable to give an account of what he and his fellows suffered.

Jorgenson's letter to his mother must have been written several days before he penned his letter to Venson, as it is more lucid. It was written in Swedish and was translated here today. It is a rather long letter, saying at the outset:

"I shall no longer be on earth. All but three out of our party are dead in a country that indeed must be the material hell. I will not go to the point of death of the sufferers myself and mates have undergone."

After explaining how he and part of his party separated from the rest and began prospecting on their own hook and sledges, he told how they got lost in December. The greater part of their provisions were stolen by wild beasts, and by January they had nothing left but a few sides of bacon.

"Hunger soon stalked among us," continued Jorgenson, "and you have not even a faint idea of what that means when a dozen of my party died in thirty days, and we then began to draw lots for human flesh. There are only four of us left now, but all too weak to travel excepting Martin, who will try to mail this letter and obtain relief. But I suppose the letter will be too late."

As a melancholy incident the writer says that, only a few days before, he discovered a lot of nuggets peeping out of the frozen ground in his tent, but he turned from the gold in disgust.

Married the Girl He Deserted.

Stroudsburg, Pa., July 2.—Word has been received here of the marriage in Massachusetts of John H. Percoll and Miss Mattie Hanna, both of East Stroudsburg. The bride was deserted some months ago by Percoll on the eve of the day set for their marriage. A few weeks ago Miss Hanna was taken to Massachusetts to take care of a sick relative. Percoll joined her there and the wedding followed.

WOMEN TAUGHT MURDER

Discovery of a School of Assassination in Hungary.

Peasant Wives Instructed by a Village Apothecary How to Dose Their Husbands to Death—Twelve Persons Figure in a Sensational Trial—Suicides Implicate Accused Druggist.

Vienna, July 2.—What is regarded as the most remarkable case in criminal history has occurred in Zesbeley, in Southern Hungary.

Twelve women and two men are on trial before the district court of Temesvar, all charged with having murdered their respective husbands, wives and sweethearts with arsenic, the main instigator of all the crimes being George Korin, a Zesbeley druggist.

The most sensational feature of this wholesale murder trial is the attempt of the prosecution to convict Dr. Johann Mayer, the village physician, of being the principal accomplice of the druggist. The evidence has already shown that Dr. Mayer issued in a number of cases certificates of "death by natural causes," while he knew that the deceased persons had died of poisoning.

It is believed here that, despite the fact that 120 witnesses have been summoned, the trial will be ended in a day or two, and that, with the customary swiftness of justice in that part of Hungary, all the accused persons will be put to death before the end of the week.

George Korin, the alleged instigator of all these crimes, is a unique character. His village apothecary shop was the meeting place of all the social gossamers of the district. Korin knew the family secrets of all, and peasant women principally were his dupes. He understood how to tempt the young peasant wife, who cared little for and always quarreled with her penniless husband, to see that he had his life heavily insured and to get rid of him in the most summary and unsuspecting manner.

Where Korin knew that a peasant woman was sustaining clandestine relations with a lover he gradually obtained her confidence, and for consideration taught her how to use arsenic with which to destroy her husband.

The village cemetery of Zesbeley would have become more densely populated were it not for anonymous communications sent from time to time during the past year to the authorities at Temesvar by some one who evidently had a grudge against Korin, the druggist. At first no heed was paid to the information, but when some months ago it was learned that Frau Lisa Triku, a veritable female Bluebeard, had buried her fourth husband, whom she had married but a short time ago, an investigation was made with the result that sixteen persons were exhumed and sent to the office of the state chemist at Budapest.

Two of the murderers have committed suicide in prison. They are Jeanette Gaga, aged twenty, and Irena Dimitriuk, a beautiful young girl, both of whom will confess, implicating George Korin.

Korin is not only accused of having instigated fourteen murders, but of having poisoned his wife in order to secure the insurance on her life and property.

Dr. Johann Mayer is also accused of having killed one sweetheart in order to secure another.

MURDERESS WANTS TO SLEEP.

Mrs. Ramsey, Who Cut Her Husband's Throat, Cannot Keep Awake.

New York, July 2.—The condition of Mrs. Grace Ramsey, who before her marriage was Miss Grace Simpson, of Williamsport, Pa., and who is charged with cutting the throat of her husband, is serious.

The Tomba matrons say the most noticeable change is a desire upon the unfortunate woman to sleep. No sooner, however, is she put to bed than she awakes, and at once falls asleep and remains so until called for dinner. The greater portion of the afternoon is spent in the same way. Her mind is rapidly fading.

TELEGRAPHED HER CONSENT.

Wealthy Atlanta Girl Weds in a Pretty Long Island Chapel.

Atlanta, Ga., July 2.—Surprise has been caused in this city by the announcement of the marriage last Friday in Southampton, L. I., of Miss Elizabeth Leontine Chisholm, of Atlanta, and Walter P. Andrews, both of this city.

The bride is said to be the wealthiest young woman in Georgia. She is popular and prominent in Atlanta society, and is the only heir of Willis Chisholm, one of the earliest settlers of Atlanta, who was immensely wealthy, his holdings consisting of centrally located Atlanta property, from which the young woman has received a large income for fifteen years, since her father's death.

Mr. Andrews is a native of Monroe, N. C., and is twenty-eight years old, and was admitted to the bar five years ago. He is a protégé of former Secretary Hoke Smith, and was at one time a clerk in Mr. Smith's office.

Miss Chisholm left Atlanta one month ago for Southampton to visit Mrs. C. V. Goodwin, formerly her guardian. Up to that time she had not promised her hand to Mr. Andrews, although he had been her suitor for two years. After two weeks' correspondence she telegraphed Mr. Andrews that she would become his bride.

At the wedding, which took place at Southampton, the details of the wedding were planned. Rev. Dr. Henry McDonald, who performed the ceremony, is pastor of the Second Baptist Church, of this city, of which Mrs. Andrews is a member. It is said that a pretty chapel in Southampton played no small part in influencing the young woman to marry. The story is that she greatly enjoyed the trip, and decided that it would be an ideal place for a wedding.

PENED IN A BURNING HOUSE.

Fatal Results of a Lightning Stroke at Chest Haven, N. S.

Unlabeled, Pa., July 2.—Lightning struck and set fire to the house of Logan Main, at Chest Haven, Saturday night, and when the family was aroused the stairway was burned away, penning its members in the second story.

Frank Main, a ten-year-old lad, prepared to jump out of the window, but was deterred by his mother, who said his life was in danger. Lena Kilback, with difficulty Frank found her in the smoke and flames. "When I tell you, jump and I will catch you," said the boy, as he leaped out the window, landing safely.

Lena was on fire when he looked up at the window, and Frank screamed: "Jump quickly!" bracing himself to rescue the lad. Half unconscious, Lena dropped from the window and into his arms, crushing him to the ground and dazing him.

His clothing was fired, but he quickly extinguished the flames in his own and Lena's clothes and dragged the unconscious girl to a place of safety. She died shortly after. Frank is in a serious condition from his injuries.

Francis Joseph's Health Improving.

Vienna, July 2.—Emperor Francis Joseph has sufficiently recovered from his illness to enable him to start his morning for his summer residence at Ischl.

MUYON'S HEALTH DRINK.

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ANACOSTIA MUST WAIT

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